

Semantic Data

Introduction

Jean-Louis Binot

Agenda

1

Introduction to semantic data

2

Outline of the course

What is common in these situations (1) ?



Building Watson: An Overview of the DeepQA Project.

*“The overarching principles in DeepQA are massive parallelism, many experts, pervasive confidence estimation, and integration of shallow and deep knowledge : ... balancing the use of strict and shallow **semantics**, leveraging many loosely formed **ontologies** ... such as DBpedia, WordNet, and the Yago ontology.”*

(Ferruci et al., AI Magazine, 2010)

What is common in these situations (2) ?

The screenshot shows the Gene Ontology Consortium website. On the left, there is a search bar for GO data and an enrichment analysis (beta) section. The main content area features a network diagram of GO terms, a highlighted GO term section, and a 'What is the Gene Ontology?' section with a list of links. The highlighted GO term is 'biological process' (GO:0044848), described as a direct subclass of biological process. The 'What is the Gene Ontology?' section includes links for an introduction, annotations, tips, tools, enrichment analysis, and downloads. The 'Recent news' section mentions 'Ten Quick Tips for Using the Gene Ontology'.

The Gene Ontology project provides controlled vocabularies of defined terms for a consistent description of gene products across databases.

*“The Gene **Ontology** (GO) has become the most cited ontology in the PubMed/MEDLINE database.”* (Bodenreider, 2008).

*“The **Web Ontology Language** (OWL) is a crucial component of the GO internal infrastructure.”*

(Gene Ontology Annotations and Resources, Nucleic Acids Research 2012)

(Gene Ontology consortium : going forward, Nucleic acids research 2014)

Ontologies ?

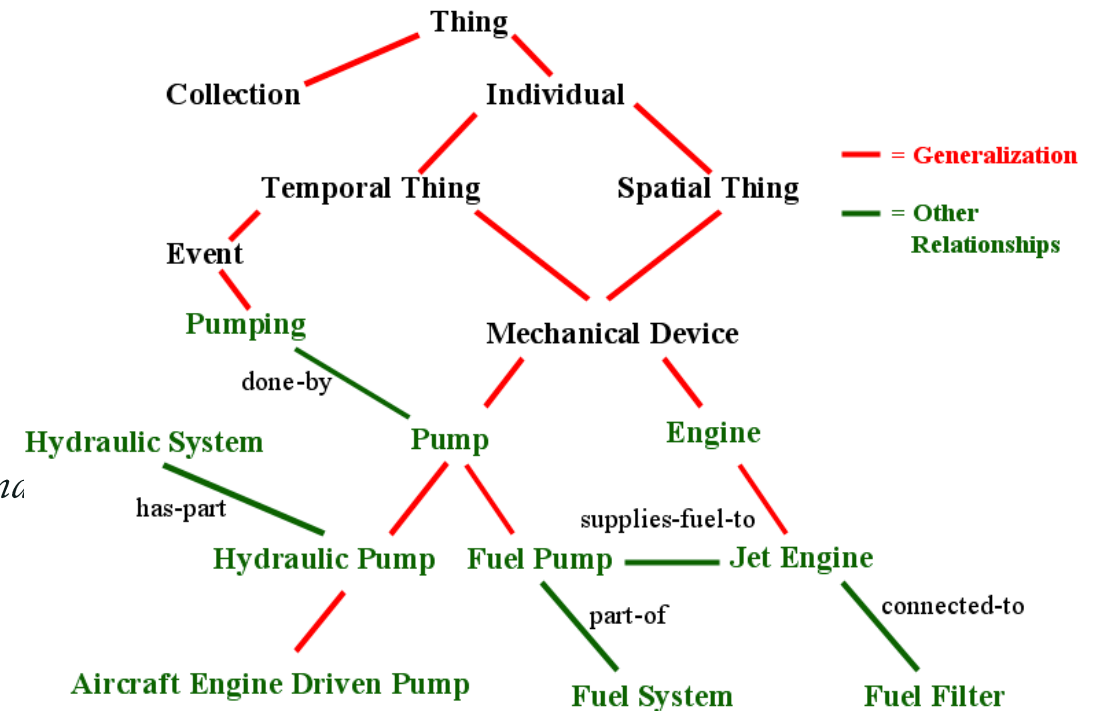
Ontologies

- Coming from the field of **O**ntology (philosophy) :
study of the nature and structure of reality.
(Aristotle's *Metaphysic*).
- Computer sciences **o**ntologies (coined by Gruber in 1993) :

“A set of representational primitives with which to model a domain of knowledge or discourse... typically classes (or sets), attributes (or properties), and relationships (or relations among class members).”

(Gruber, Encyclopedia of Database Systems, 2009).

- Introduced in early Artificial Intelligence systems to support inference capabilities, using **semantic networks** and other knowledge representation schemes.
- Historically started in Natural Language Processing.



Fragment of an ontology for an aircraft company.

(Formalized in OWL; source Uschold and Gruniger 2004)

What is common in these situations (3) ?



*“A site that exposes **RDF** usually has an API that is easy to deal with, which makes our life easier. For instance, we use geonames.org as one of our geospatial information sources.*

*It is a full-on **Semantic Web** endpoint...”*

(interview of Tom Gruber, CTO of Siri, Nova Spivack, 2010).

Semantic Web ?

The semantic web

- Term coined by Tim Berners-Lee to denote a new form of web in which information is given well-defined meaning that can be processed by machines (*Berners-Lee et al., The Semantic Web, 2001*).

I have a dream for the Web [in which computers] become capable of analyzing all the data on the Web – the content, links, and transactions between people and computers... (Berners-Lee and Fischetti, Weaving the web, 1999).

- Not a different web but an extension of the web through various standards used to enrich **web data** with semantic annotations, organize them and use them.
- These standards are maintained by the **World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)**.
 - **RDF** (Resource Description Framework).
 - **OWL** (Web Ontology Language)
 - ...

Semantic web and linked data



*The next web by Tim Berners-Lee
(TED* talk 2009)*

Full talk to be listened to at home.

** : TED is a nonprofit organization started in 1984 devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less).*

Key messages :

- ❑ The semantic web will be a web of open **linked data** !
- ❑ Three rules for linked data :
 - Names will use the http format.
 - When reaching these names through the web, we will get back data, in a standard format.
 - **We also will get back relationships. Data is relationships !**
- ❑ Linked data is a great way of getting data out of their silos and unlock their power.

What is common in these situations (4) ?



Google leonardo da vinci

Leonardo da Vinci Polymath

Leonardo di ser Piero da Vinci, more commonly known as Leonardo da Vinci, was an Italian polymath of the Renaissance whose areas of interest included invention, drawing, painting, sculpture, architecture, ... [Wikipedia](#)

Born: April 15, 1452, Anchiano, Italy

Died: May 2, 1519, Chapel of Saint-Hubert, Amboise, France

On view: [Ambrosian Library](#), [Louvre Museum](#), [MORE](#)

Periods: High Renaissance, Early renaissance, Renaissance, Italian Renaissance, Florentine painting

Known for: Art (painting, drawing, sculpting), science, engineering, architecture, anatomy

Artworks [View 15+ more](#)

				
Mona Lisa 1503	The Last Supper 1498	Salvator Mundi 1500	Vitruvian Man	Lady with an Ermine 1490

*Introducing the **knowledge graph** (Google inside blog, 2012)*

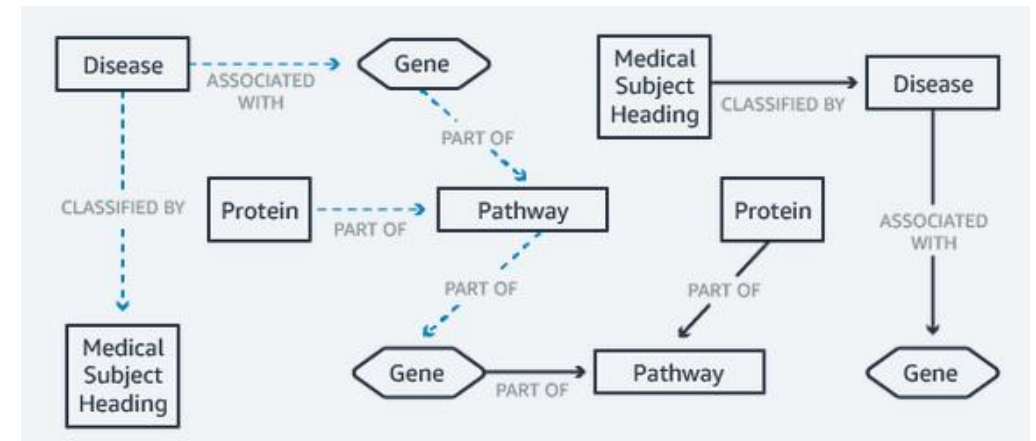
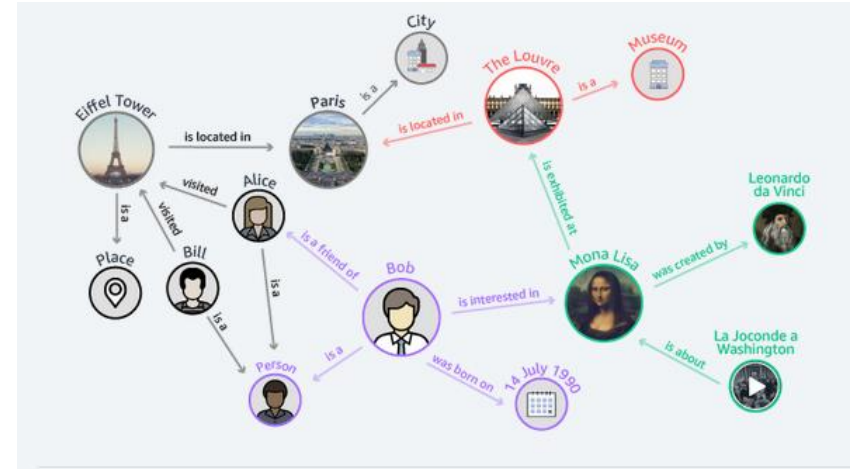


We've been working on an intelligent model— a “graph”—that understands real-world entities and their relationships to one another: things, not strings. (Google inside blog, 2012)

Knowledge graphs

Knowledge graphs are large networks of entities, their semantic types, properties, and relationships between entities. They have become a powerful asset for search, analytics, recommendations, and data integration (Kroetzsch and Weikum, eds., 2015).

Examples : Google Knowledge Graph, Microsoft Bing, Microsoft Academic knowledge graph, Facebook social graph, eBay product graph, IBM Watson Discovery ...



(From [Amazon Neptune](#) : new graph database by Amazon Web Services, launched in 2018).

What is common in these situations ?



All use semantic relations and ontologies.

All use the standards of the semantic web.

All make use of meaning-related information :
semantic data.



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Periods: High Renaissance, Early renaissance, Renaissance, Italian Renaissance, Florentine painting
Known for: Art, science
Siblings: Giovanni Ser Piero, Guglielmo Ser Piero, [MORE](#)



A screenshot of the Gene Ontology Consortium website. The page features a search bar, a navigation menu, and several sections including "Search GO data", "Enrichment analysis (beta)", "Statistics", "What is the Gene Ontology?", and "Recent news". A central graphic shows a complex network of terms, and a "Highlighted GO term" section is visible on the right.

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Outline of the course

Philosophy of the course

- Provide a broad overview of a modern field :
 - Relying on multiple computer sciences disciplines : primarily knowledge representation, but also graphs, complexity, formal languages, databases...
 - Touching different IT domains : Artificial Intelligence, web solutions, big data, software engineering...
 - Multidisciplinary (taking ideas from philosophy, linguistics, logic ...).

- With an industrial perspective :
 - From theoretical foundations to business needs.
 - Leading edge solutions in many areas : bio-informatics, engineering, human sciences...

- Concretely applicable :
 - Directly usable standards and languages; practical project with modern tools.

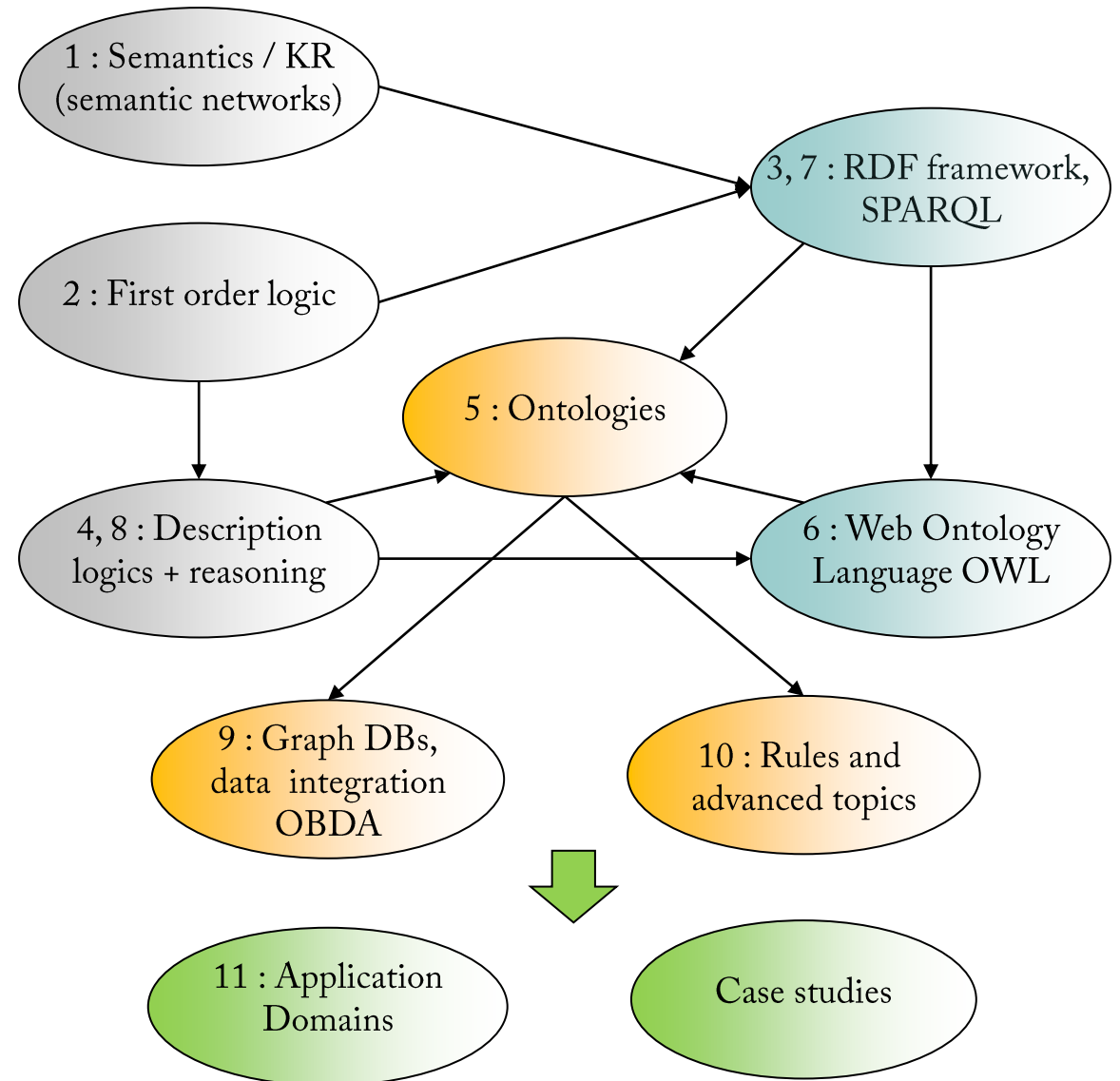
Course content outline

Credits : 5 (theory 25 h, practice 10 h, project 45 h)

Theory (25 h):

1. Semantics and knowledge representation.
2. Introduction to first order logic.
3. The semantic web resource description framework.
4. Description logics.
5. Ontologies and ontology engineering.
6. The Web Ontology Language : OWL.
7. Querying the semantic web : SPARQL.
8. Reasoning with description logics.
9. Data integration and ontology-based data access.
10. Rules and advanced topics.
11. Application domains.

Case studies : real cases for genuine business customers;
integrated in the relevant theory sessions.



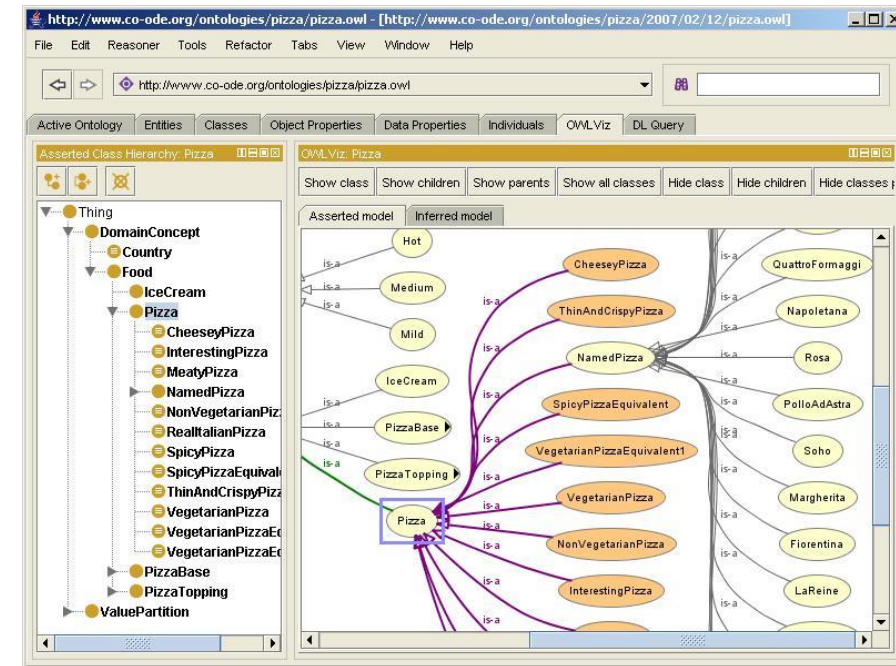
Course content outline ./.

□ Practice (10 h) :

- Exercises on theoretical foundations.
- Ontology development and tools for the project.

□ Project (45 h): building and using an ontology.

- Designing, developing and querying an ontology for a selected domain.
- Using open-source tools :
 - ontology editor Protégé (Stanford University).
 - Java IDE tool and Java APIs for ontology languages.
- In groups (3 - 4 people); choice between several topics.
- **Project starting date : March 3, 2021.**
- Topic choices and group compositions will be done before project start.



Organisation

□ Learning material

- The course material will be on the [course web page](http://www.montefiore.ulg.ac.be/~binot/) : <http://www.montefiore.ulg.ac.be/~binot/>.
- The slides of the course provide the reference material for theory and exercises.
- The domain being multi-disciplinary, there is no single reference textbook. The following sources provide useful but non required input. Additional useful readings are specified in each chapter.

Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach (3rd Edition), Russel and Norvig, 2010, chapters 7, 8, 12.

An introduction to description logic, Baader, Horrocks, Lutz and Sattler, 2017, chapters 1, 2, 4, 7, 8.

- The case studies are part of the required course material.
 - For the project, pointers to web documentation of tools and W3C standards will be provided.
- ## □ Submission platform for the project : Montefiore submission platform.
- ## □ Contact : Jean-Louis Binot (jean-louis.binot@uliege.be)

Organisation - evaluation

Evaluation modalities may be adapted depending on Covid situation.

□ Assessment criteria

- Theoretical content and related practice : closed books oral exam in June, (open questions and problems).

All parts of the material are relevant : theory, practice **and** case studies.

- Project results will be assessed from :
 - the resulting implementation;
 - a final defense, consisting of a **presentation** and **demonstration**, followed by Q&A.
- **Submission of project results is mandatory for presenting the exam !**
- Project results can be kept or improved for September session.

□ Grade allocation

- Oral exam : 60%.
- Project results : 40% (implementation 25%, defense 15%).

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THANK YOU